

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-05 SCS-03 SCCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00

FBO-02 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NIC-01 NSC-05 SP-02

OPR-01 PA-01 USSS-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01

SS-15 SY-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-10 CU-02 /088 W
----- 076794

O 171910Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE NIACT IMMEDIATE 2216

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, GR, CY, US

SUBJECT: CYPRIOT STUDENT PROTEST DEMONSTRATION

1. PROTEST DEMONSTRATION ORGANIZED BY NATIONAL CYPRIOT
STUDENT UNION OF THESSALONIKI (EFEKT) BEGAN AT 1530
HOURS JAN 17 WITH GATHERING ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

2. PROTESTERS PROCEEDED THROUGH CITY CENTER TO BRITISH
CONSULATE, CHANTING AND WAVING FLAGS AND PLACARDS.
BRITISH CONSUL RECEIVED TWO UNION LEADERS IN OFFICE, WHERE
THEY DELIVERED MESSAGE PROTESTING RELEASE OF TURKISH
CYPRIOTS FROM BRITISH BASES AS VIOLATION OF GENEVA
AGREEMENTS, AND CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH BASES
AND TROOPS FROM ISLAND. CONSUL TELLS US REPS WERE POLITE
AND SUBDUED THROUGHOUT, AND CONVEYED VERBAL MESSAGE

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ALONG SAME GENERAL LINES AS WRITTEN TEXT.

3. PROTESTERS THEN MOVED DOWN WATERFRONT PARALIA TO AMCONGEN, WHERE HEAVY CORDON OF GENDARMERIE HAD BEEN STANDING BY SINCE MID-AFTERNOON. UPON ARRIVAL BEFORE BUILDING AT APPRX 1900 HOURS, GROUP, NUMBERING ABOUT 200, SET UP FAMILIAR CRIES, UNDER DIRECTION OF LEADERS WITH ELECTRIC BULLHORNS, OF "OUT WITH AMERICANS", "CIA TREASON", "KISSINGER MURDERER", "DOWN WITH THE FLAG", "HANDS OFF CYPRUS", "CYPRUS INDEPENDENT", ETC.

4. TWO GROUP LEADERS (PRESUMABLY UNION'S PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY) ASKED TO DELIVER PETITION TO CONGEN REP IN OFFICES AND WERE RECEIVED BY POLITICAL OFFICER JACKSON. TEXT OF MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

"TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT: YOUR TREASONOUS POLICY TOWARD THE GREEK NATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL NOT GO UNPUNISHED. THE CYPRIOT STUDENTS OF THESSALONIKI AND THE ENTIRE GREEK PEOPLE ARE DECIDED TO CONTINUE OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST TURKISH EXPANSIONISM WHICH IS DIRECTLY ASSISTED BY YOUR MONOPOLISTIC INTERESTS. WE WILL NOT ALLOW OUR ISLAND TO BECOME A NEW PALESTINE FOR THE INTERESTS OF YOUR IMPERIALISTIC POLICY. (SIGNED BY PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL CYPRIOT STUDENT UNION OF THESSALONIKI)"

5. VERBALLY, TWO LEADERS, WHO WERE CALM AND POLITE THROUGHOUT BRIEF INTERVIEW, TOLD CONGEN OFFICER IN EFFECT: WHILE THEY HAVE GREAT RESPECT AND LOVE FOR AMERICA AND AMERICAN PEOPLE, THEY CONSIDER U.S. POLICY IN CYPRUS "DIRTY"; CYPRUS MUST BE INDEPENDENT; IN TERMS PROPORTIONAL TO POPULATION, NUMBERS OF US REFUGEES IN A CYPRUS SITUATION WOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO "MILLIONS" OF PEOPLE; KISSINGER PERSONALLY IS SUPPORTING TURKS; US AND USSR AT VLADIVOSTOK IMPOSED THEIR OWN POLICIES ON CYPRUS. CONGEN OFFICER CONFINED RESPONSE TO STATEMENT THAT UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS AND A JUST SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT PROBLEMS ON THE ISLAND. HE ASSURED THEM FURTHER THAT THEIR MESSAGE WOULD BE CONVEYED TO THE APPROPRIATE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

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6. UPON THEIR DEPARTURE FROM BUILDING, PROTESTERS TOOK UP CHANTS AGAIN FOR BRIEF PERIOD AND THEN MOVED OFF AFTER APPRX HALF-HOUR DEMONSTRATION. AS INDICATED ABOVE, EVENT WAS ORDERLY, WELL-DISCIPLINED AND PROFESSIONALLY DIRECTED. HEAVY POLICE REPRESENTATION, EQUAL IN NUMBER TO PROTESTERS AND LED PERSONALLY BY THESSALONIKI CHIEF STAVROPOULOS, HAD NO DIFFICULTY OR PROBLEMS IN CONTROLLING DEMONSTRATORS.

7. COMMENT: MESSAGE OF TEXT INDICATES CONTINUED
ASSOCIATION OF CYPRIOT AND PALESTINIAN CAUSES, SPICED WITH
MARXIST JARGON, AT THESS UNIVERSITY, WHICH HAS SIZEABLE
ARAB AND CYPRIOT STUDENT BODIES.
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Message Attributes

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